

**Packet Transmitting and Receiving Method and Apparatus Therefor****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

According to the present invention, an information network wherein, packets can be forwarded between entities on a network along a plurality of lines, each line carrying separate copies of information. If a portion of one copy of the information is lost due to line failure, for example, other copies flowing along different lines can be used to reconstruct the lost information. In a representative embodiment, a plurality of LAN lines respectively connect between terminals and LAN-to-LAN forwarding devices or between two LAN-to-LAN forwarding devices. The terminals or the LAN-to-LAN forwarding devices are respectively provided with multiple line transmitting units for respectively transmitting the same packets to the plurality of LAN lines substantially contemporaneously. There are also provided multiple line receiving units for respectively selecting any of the same packets sent from the plurality of LAN lines and receiving it.

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